

## Message Text

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71

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 027910

R 041600Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2818

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6389

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJ: TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

1. FRENCH GATT PERMREP COLMANT TOOK RIGID LINE WITH US IN DISCUSSION DEC. 4, AT HIS INITIATIVE, ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR OVERCOMING MTN IMPASSE. COLMANT SAID FRENCH DETERMINATION TO STAND FAST ON TREATMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN MTN IS REINFORCED BY UNANIMOUS VIEW OF 9 ON SUBSTANTIVE AND TECHNICAL MERITS OF THEIR VIEW. HE ACKNOWLEDGED SOME OF FRANCE'S EC PARTNERS MIGHT BE DISPOSED TO COMPROMISE FOR SAKE OF GETTING ON WITH WORK AND TO AVOID FRICTION WITH US, BUT CAUTIONED THERE WERE FORCES AT POLITICAL LEVEL IN FRENCH GOVT WHO SEE NO NEED FOR COMPROMISE AND MIGHT INDEED LIKE NOTHING BETTER THAN HAVING IMPASSE CONTINUE.

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2. COLMANT AWARE HIJZEN MET WITH US AND JAPAN NOV 30 AND EXPRESSED HOPE HIJZEN HAD NOT PRESENTED ANY TEXTS (WE SAID HE HAD NOT) BECAUSE FORMULATION OF EC UNILATERAL DECLARATION IN PARTICULAR WOULD REQUIRE DELICATE

DRAFTING AND APPROVAL AT POLITICAL LEVEL AMONG 9.  
COLMANT SAID IF US WANTS MTN WORK TO GO FORWARD, US  
WILL HAVE TO ACCEPT ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURE WITH SOLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ASPECTS OF  
AGRICULTURE IN MTN. THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED EITHER  
BY EXPLICIT AGREEMENT IN TNC OR, IF US PREFERENCES TO PUT  
OFF FORMAL DECISION FOR SOME MONTHS, BY SILENCE IN  
RESPONSE TO EC UNILATERAL DECLARATION. SILENCE WOULD NOT  
BE INTERPRETED TO MEAN US AGREES BUT SIMPLY THAT  
FORMAL DECISION DEFERRED AND MEANWHILE SOME NON-PREJUDICIAL  
PREPARATORY WORK COULD BE RESUMED, BUT IF COUNTER-STATE-  
MENTS ARE MADE IN RESPONSE TO EC UNILATERAL DECLARATION,  
IT WOULD MEAN NO AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON HOW  
AGRICULTURE WILL BE HANDLED IN MTN AND CONSEQUENTLY  
IDENTIFICATION OF ANY SPECIFIC TASKS FOR COMING MONTHS  
WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT. BASSIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Subject:** TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE  
**TAGS:** ETRD, US, FR, GATT, (COLMANT)  
**To:** STATE INFO BONN  
BRUSSELS  
EC BRUSSELS UNN  
COPENHAGEN  
DUBLIN  
THE HAGUE  
LONDON

LUXEMBOURG

PARIS

ROME

TOKYO

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